

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 AID-05
FRB-03 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01
/088 W

-----006307 030634Z /17

R 021303Z FEB 78

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9633

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISTANBUL 0345

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EAIR, TU

SUBJ: EFFECT OF TURKISH EXCHANGE RESTRICTS ON PAN AMERICAN TRAFFIC IN
AND OUT OF TURKEY

BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT SHORTAGE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE, THE TURKISH
GOVERNMENT HAS DRASTICALLY REDUCED FOREIGN EXCHANGE SOLD TO TURKS
TRAVELLING ABROAD. EXCEPTIONS ARE MADE FOR BUSINESSMEN, OFFICIALS,
ETC. AS AN INDICATION OF THE EFFECT OF THESE CONTROLS ON AIR
TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF TURKEY, THE AMERICAN PAN AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE

IN ISTANBUL TOLD ME YESTERDAY THAT THE PAN AMERICAN PASSENGER TRAFFIC
OUT OF TURKEY IS NOW APPROXIMATELY 30 PERCENT OF THE NORMAL RATE AND
TRAFFIC IN IS 18 PERCENT OF NORMAL TRAFFIC AT THIS TIME OF
YEAR. HE MENTIONED THAT IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS, EIGHT TOUR
GROUPS TO THE U.S. OF 30 PEOPLE EACH HAD BEEN CANCELLED BECAUSE OF
THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESTRICTIONS. AIR FREIGHT, WHICH HAD DEVELOPED
INTO A PROFITABLE BUSINESS FOR PAN AMERICAN, HAD ALSO DECLINED TO
AN ALARMING EXTENT. ALL HIS STAFF WERE NOW ENGAGED IN EFFORTS
TO STIMULATE BUSINESS; BUT AS HE POINTED OUT, IF THE
SITUATION DID NOT CHANGE FOR THE BETTER, PAN AMERICAN WOULD
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HAVE TO CUT FLIGHTS IN AND OUT OF TURKEY, AND PROBABLY
REDUCE ITS STAFF AS WELL. HE IS DISCUSSING PROBLEM WITH
THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT THIS WEEK BUT IS NOT SANGUINE AND
NEITHER ARE WE THAT THE GOVERNMENT UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS
WOULD ALTER THEIR PRESENT RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN
TRAVEL.
HOUGHTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN EXCHANGE, CURRENCY CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ISTANB00345
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780051-0494
Format: TEL
From: ISTANBUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802102/aaaadicy.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f06d6dcd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3432812
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EFFECT OF TURKISH EXCHANGE RESTRICTS ON PAN AMERICAN TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF TURKEY BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT SHORTAGE OF FOREIGN EXCHANG
TAGS: ECON, EAIR, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f06d6dcd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014